

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A disposable diaper comprising a liquid-holding type absorbent article body in which an absorbent core article is arranged between a liquid permeable top sheet and a liquid impermeable back sheet, in which a pair of right and left leg openings through which the legs pass at least at the time of wearing the disposable diaper is formed, and a plurality of leg portion elastic members is arranged around the respective leg openings in an extended state, wherein

the leg portion elastic member includes at least one first leg portion elastic member provided in a front side portion which can be applied to the abdomen of a wearer so as to draw an arc along the leg openings, and at least one second leg portion elastic member provided in a back side portion which can be applied to the back of the wearer so as to draw an arc along the leg openings, the second leg portion elastic member being isolated from the first leg portion elastic member in a crotch portion which can be applied to the crotch of the wearer when worn,

the minimum width of the absorbent article body in the crotch portion is within the range of from about 250 to 350 mm, and ~~the~~ opposite side edges in the width direction of the absorbent article body in the crotch portion bend towards ~~the~~ an external surface when worn, so that the respective opposite side edges in the width direction form leg flap absorbent articles which ~~is~~ are capable of abutting against the inner part of the thigh of the wearer.

2. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, further comprising an outer layer sheet which defines the external shape of the diaper, wherein the absorbent article body is arranged on one face of the outer layer sheet, and the width of the absorbent article body is wider

than the width of the outer layer sheet in at least a part of the crotch portion.

3. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein the first leg portion elastic member provided along one of the pair of leg openings and the first leg portion elastic member provided along the other of the pair of leg openings are continuous in the crotch portion, and

the second leg portion elastic member provided along one of the pair of leg openings and the second leg portion elastic member provided along the other of the pair of leg openings are continuous in the crotch portion.

4. (Previously Presented) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein a gap formed between the first leg portion elastic member and the second leg portion elastic member in the crotch portion is within the range of from about 1% to 70% of the length in the longitudinal direction of the leg flap absorbent article.

5. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein the length in the longitudinal direction of the leg flap absorbent article is within the range of from about 1/5 to 2/3 of the length in the longitudinal direction of the diaper.

6. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein at least one leg flap elastic member is arranged along the longitudinal direction of the leg flap absorbent article on the external surface of the respective leg flap absorbent articles, and the extending stress of the

respective leg flap elastic member is smaller than that of the first leg portion elastic member and the second leg portion elastic member.

7. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein at least one leg flap side elastic member is arranged along the side edge, respectively at the opposite side edges of the absorbent article body in the crotch portion, and the extending stress of the respective leg flap side elastic member is smaller than that of the first leg portion elastic member and the second leg portion elastic member.

8. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein at the respective opposite sides in the width direction of the absorbent article body, there are formed first liquid impermeable three-dimensional guards, liquid permeable side absorbing areas formed outside of the first three-dimensional guards in the width direction for enabling the body waste which has flowed over the first three-dimensional guards and penetrated into the leg flap absorbent articles, and liquid impermeable side areas formed outside of the side absorbing areas in the width direction for preventing the body waste absorbed by the absorbent article body from exuding from the side edges of the absorbent article body.

9. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 2, wherein when held in a strained state, a ratio a/b of the length "a" in the longitudinal direction of the leg opening with respect to the maximum width "b" of the leg opening, is not smaller than about 3.3, and the shortest distance from a point located innermost in the width direction at the side edge of the outer layer

sheet in the crotch portion to the side edge of the absorbent article body is not longer than 40 mm.

10. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 1, comprising bending devices which assist bending of the opposite side edges in the width direction of the absorbent article body toward the external surface.

11. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 10, wherein the first leg portion elastic member and the second leg portion elastic member serve as the bending devices.

12. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 10, wherein the bending devices are embosses applied to the absorbent article body, isolated from the side edges in the width direction toward the inside of the absorbent article body.

13. (Original) A disposable diaper according to claim 10, wherein the bending devices are low-rigidity areas having relatively low rigidity, formed in the absorbent article body isolated from the side edges in the width direction toward the inside of the absorbent article body.

14. (New) A disposable diaper according to claim 10, wherein the bending devices are low-rigidity areas, formed in the absorbent article body isolated from the side edges in the width direction toward the inside in the width direction of the absorbent article body, and the low-rigidity are formed by any of the following methods:

- (i) tearing out a part of the absorbent article body;
- (ii) making a part of the absorbent core have lower basis weight than that of other regions;
- (iii) making a part of the absorbent core thinner than other regions.